NOTES

000 [1]Matthew's Ridge was developed by the North West Mining Company, a subsidiary of Union Carbide Corporation, which undertook open pit mining for manganese ore. Operations started in March 1960. Ore was transported by rail to Port Kaituma. From there it was shipped to either the United States or Norway. At the height of activities, 600 men from the coast were employed and a community of 2000 was sustained. However, late in 1968 operations were suspended. The Guyanese Government subsequently introduced agricultural programs in an attempt to maintain Matthew's Ridge. Amerindians, more or less as scavengers, find marginal opportunities there.

Also, some Upper Barama River Caribs have left to join Cuyuni River Caribs. There, the Guyana Defence Force maintains a permanent camp. It too provides marginal opportunities for the Amerindians.

[436] [2]Unless otherwise specified, all monetary denominations are recorded in Guyanese dollars. Two Guyanese dollars are approximately equivalent to one U. S. dollar.

Since the devaluation of the U. S. dollar in 1971, the international price of gold is about $60 (U. S.) an ounce.

[3]The Rupununi Rebellion began on January 2, 1969. About forty ranchers and ranch-hands from the Rupununi Savannahs participated. An armed attack was carried out on the police station in Lethem. Radio phones were captured and air strips in the area were blocked, except for the grass air strip at Manari. Though this one open air strip was small and not centrally located, policemen and Guyana Defence Force soldiers were flown into the Rupununi Savannahs. On the morning of January 3, this contingent moved on Lethem, and the rebels fled. The previous day four policemen and one Amerindian had been killed. The rebels had been trained in Venezuela, and attempts were made in Venezuelan radio broadcasts to camouflage the events as an uprising of the Amerindian people.

[4]In 1962 Venezuela reopened a border dispute that presumably was settled in 1899. Representatives from Venezuela claim collusion among the British and a five man panel that had established the present border. The Venezuelan territorial claim extends to the Essequibo River. International law supports the present border. In the fall of 1966, Venezuelan soldiers occupied the Guyanese portion of Ankoko Island in the Cuyuni River. These soldiers later retreated. The next event occurred in June 1970. A Protocol was signed by Guyana, Venezuela, and the United Kingdom. Venezuela agreed to suspend its claim for a minimum of twelve years.

*177 the small aircraft. As is common in the handling and transportation
659 of tropical fish, many would die. Up to as many as ten percent of
226 the fish would be lost in transit to Georgetown, and the proprietor
439 cut the price to 4 1/2¢ per live fish he received. After a few thousand catfish had been sent to Georgetown, tropical fish operations were suspended.

*177 With this proliferation of small market opportunities, a money
438 economy continued to develop in the Upper Barama River area after the
436 closing of the mine. A government trade store is now located at
*177 Baramita Air Strip and operated by the Project Officer. During
657 1970-71, the minimal stock of tinned sardines, salt fish, flour, rice,
443 sugar, cigarettes, matches, ammunition, cutlasses and knives, cloth
438 lengths, pants and shirts, school exercise books and pencils was
439 sometimes depleted by delay in the shipment of supplies from George-
*177 town. More often, Caribs did not have the cash to make purchases.
436 Money tended to be a more specialized means of exchange. Only it could
[182] be used to purchase commercial goods. As a consequence of the limited
circulation of money among this population, there occurred a renewed
*177 reliance on bush resources for food and tools. Secondary networks
438 for the exchange of local provision foods greatly disappeared. A
[464] marked separation of those employed and unemployed during the mining
economy was lost. In contrast, a diversity of limited opportunities
*177 to directly participate in regional exchanges was available more
438 generally to the population at Baramita Air Strip. In this manner,
439 the regional economy among the Upper Barama River Caribs has been
[657] supported by the national government since the closing of the mine.

*177 476 the dependent partners are identifiable. This contrasts to the associational nature of the previous pattern of cooperation among the Carib men.

*177 175 462 The increased isolation of the family group resident in a clearing has affected the assignment of tasks according to sex. Gillin reports a discrete separation of tasks (1936:3,46,51,71). Men would hunt and clear fields, construct houses, canoes and cassiri kanus, and do all basketry and plaiting. Women would harvest cultigens, gather edibles from the forest, prepare all food, sew, tend children, and exclusively assist in childbirth while the men were not allowed in the clearing. Men and women would cooperate to plant fields and poison streams for fish. During 1970-71, men were observed in their own households engaged in all of those tasks which previously were allocated to women. For the most part, women's tasks are those which must be done on a daily basis. Men assisted with the activity when the females in the household were otherwise indisposed and there was [844] no wider circle of females to call upon. Men now commonly deliver their wife's children. Women, on the other hand, were not observed taking part in any of the men's activities.

*177 437 [436] Exchanges between people from households in different clearings are now conveyed in terms of immediate exchange. Barter has been used, but increasingly the exchange of labor, food, or craft items is conducted with money. Labor assistance, including help in clearing and planting fields, building houses and cassiri kanus, and processing cassiri, is paid for either in food or money. Manioc tubers, the prepared cassava cakes, turtles and other bush meat are

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